

Attorney Docket No.: DID-101
Appl. Ser. No.: 10/084,283

PATENT

REMARKS

Applicant submits that the amendment filed on 8/10/05 and the present supplemental amendment are fully responsive to the Office Action dated May 12, 2005 and, thus, the application is in condition for allowance.

By this reply, claims 53, 58, 59 and 62 are amended to further clarify the present invention. Claims 48, 50 and 52-67 remain pending. Of these, claims 48, 50, 52, 53, 58, 59 and 62 are independent. An expedited review and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicant's representative extends his sincere gratitude to Examiner Dawson for graciously agreeing to an interview at the USPTO scheduled on September 7, 2005. During such interview, Applicant's representative presented a description of a particular embodiment as shown in Figure 9a with support from the figures and the specification. Then the Office Action was discussed. With respect to the claims, it was agreed that claim language that recited an elongate member guided through tissue outside of the grasping member would be sufficient to overcome the cited art of record. It is believed that the amendments and remarks presented herein are directly reflective of the discussion of the Interview and any and all of the issues of the outstanding Office Action have been resolved and, thus, an expedited allowance of the present invention is respectfully requested.

If any fees are associated with the entering and consideration of this supplemental amendment, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account 50-2882.

As all of the outstanding rejections have been traversed and all of the claims are believed to be in condition for allowance, Applicant respectfully requests issuance of a Notice of

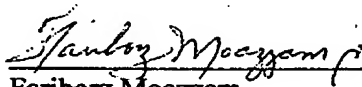
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Allowance. If the undersigned attorney can assist in any matters regarding examination of this application, Examiner is encouraged to call at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 25 October 2005


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